United Nations ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/1

Secretariat

Distr.: General
3 February 2014

Original: English

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Forty-fifth session
Geneva, 23 June – 2 July 2014
Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda
Explosives and related matters: review of test series 6

Manual of Tests and Criteria

Correction to Figure 10.3: Procedure for Assignment to a Division of Class 1

Transmitted by the Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME) and the Sporting Arms & Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI)[1]

Introduction

1. At the forty-third session of the Sub-Committee (TDG), the Working Group on Explosives (EWG) discussed a problem with the flow chart in Figure 10.3 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria. The EWG was of the opinion that the flow from Box 32 to 33 infers that the 6 (d) test is required for all 1.4S candidates. The EWG noted that this is not the case, as the 6 (d) test is only required for the eight 1.4S entries to which special provision 347 applies.

2. IME and SAAMI agreed to review the issue further and to submit a joint proposal to remedy the issue at the forty-fifth session in 2014 (see also ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/86, para.21).

[1] In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2013-2014 approved by the Committee at its sixth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/84, para. 86 and ST/SG/AC.10/40, para. 14).

Discussion

3. The Sub-Committee adopted the UN 6 (d) test during its thirty-fourth session (December 2008)[2].

4. When it adopted the 6 (d) test, the Sub-Committee elected to apply the requirement to perform the test only to candidates for classification within the following 1.4S entries: UN0323, UN0366, UN0441, UN0445, UN0455, UN0456, UN0460, and UN0500. To note this requirement, the Sub-Committee inserted a reference to special provision 347 in column 6 in the Dangerous Goods List against these eight entries[3].

5. Special provision 347 states that the classification (of the eight entries listed above) may only be assigned if, when the 6(d) test is performed, "any hazardous effects arising from functioning are confined within the package"[4].

6. Box 32 of Figure 10.3 of the Manual asks the question "Would the hazard hinder fire-fighting in the immediate vicinity?", which is determined by the 6(c) test. A "yes" answer to box 32 flows to box 34, which is acceptance into Division 1.4 other than Compatibility Group S. A "no" answer to box 32 flows to box 33, which asks the question, "Are there hazardous effects outside the package". Box 33 thus implies that the 6(d) test must be applied to all items that give a "no" answer in box 32 before moving on to potential classification as Division 1.4 Compatibility Group S. Such items would be all items that are candidate for any 1.4S entry, not just those entries to which special provision 347 applies.

7. A box should be inserted between boxes 32 and 33 that limits entry into box 33 to those entries to which special provision 347 applies.

(a) To minimize box renumbering in Figure 10.3, the new box might be numbered 32a.

(b) To minimize future revisions to Figure 10.3, the box should refer to special provision 347 rather than listing the specific entries to which the 6(d) test is applied.

Proposal

8. Amend Figure 10.3 of the Test Manual by inserting a new box 32(a) between boxes 32 and 33. The new box 32a should read, "Does Special Provision 347 apply?", a "yes" answer should lead to box 33, and a "no" answer should lead to box 35, as shown in the annex to this paper.

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[2] ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/68, paras. 8 - 12

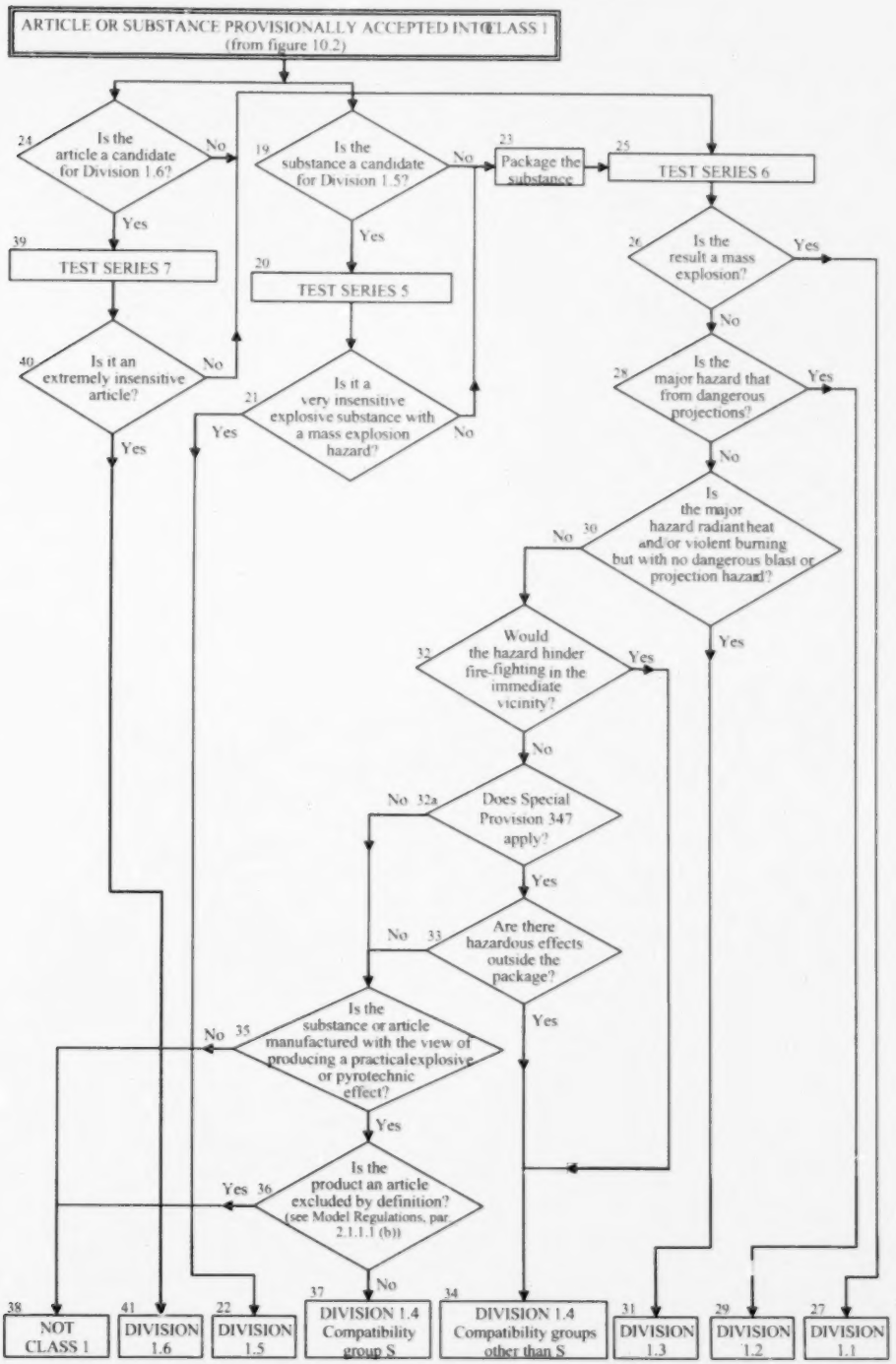
[3] ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/68, para. 9

[4] ST/SG/AC.10/1/Rev.18,Section 3.3.1

Annex

Revised Figure 10.3 with new box 32a

Figure 10.3: Procedure for assignment to a division of Class 1


ARTICLE OR SUBSTANCE PROVISIONALLY ACCEPTED INTO CLASS 1
(from figure 10.2)
24 Is the article a candidate for Division 1.6?
No
Yes
19 Is the substance a candidate for Division 1.5?
No
Yes
23 Package the substance
25 TEST SERIES 6
39 TEST SERIES 7
20 TEST SERIES 5
26 Is the result a mass explosion?
Yes
No
40 Is it an extremely insensitive article?
No
Yes
21 Is it a very insensitive explosive substance with a mass explosion hazard?
Yes
No
28 Is the major hazard that from dangerous projections?
Yes
No
30 Is the major hazard radiant heat and/or violent burning but with no dangerous blast or projection hazard?
No
Yes
32 Would the hazard hinder fire-fighting in the immediate vicinity?
Yes
No
32a Does Special Provision 347 apply?
No
Yes
33 Are there hazardous effects outside the package?
No
Yes
35 Is the substance or article manufactured with the view of producing a practical explosive or pyrotechnic effect?
No
Yes
36 Is the product an article excluded by definition? (see Model Regulations, par 2.1.1.1 (b))
Yes
No
38 NOT CLASS 1
41 DIVISION 1.6
22 DIVISION 1.5
37 DIVISION 1.4 Compatibility group S
34 DIVISION 1.4 Compatibility groups other than S
31 DIVISION 1.3
29 DIVISION 1.2
27 DIVISION 1.1